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33. *TEUCRIUM VISCIDUM* BL. (LAMIACEAE) - AN INTERESTING DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORD FROM ORISSA

Teucrium viscidum Bl. (Syn. *T. stoloniferum* Buch.-Ham. ex Benth.) so far restricted to Sikkim Himalaya, Bengal, Khasia hills and Oudh in India has been found to occur in Orissa. Haines (1921-25) included this species in the Botany of Bihar and Orissa on its probable occurrence without having made any collection or seen in the field. Gamble (1915-36), Mooney (1950), Panigrahi *et al.* (1964) and others too have not reported this species from the area. The present report is not only a new record for Orissa but also extends the restricted distribution of this interesting taxon.

Teucrium viscidum Bl., Bijdr. 827. 1827; Mukerjee, Rec. Bot. Surv. India 14: 218. 1940; Keng in Steenis, Fl. Males. I. 8: 318. f. 4. 1978. *T. stoloniferum* Buch.-Ham. ex Benth. in Wall. Pl. As. Rar. 1: 58. 1830; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 4: 700. 1885; Haines, Bot. Bihar & Orissa 2: 752 (789). 1924.

Erect, stoloniferous herb, 30-60 cm; stems pubescent and glandular-pubescent. Leaves ovate or ovate-oblong, 3.5-7 x 2-4.5 cm, deeply crenate to crenate-serrate, acute, minutely sparsely pubescent on both sides, base subcordate, truncate or shortly cuneate; petiole 1-2.5 cm. Racemes terminal and axillary, simple or paniced, lax-flowered, 4-6 cm long or in fruit up to 8 cm long densely pubescent and glandular-pubescent; pedicels 2-3 mm; bracts lanceolate, 2-3 mm long, pubescent. Calyx campanulate, 2.5-3 mm long, pubescent or glandular-pubescent outside, 3 upper teeth short, ovate or

triangular, obtuse, 2 lower ones acute, subequal; calyx in fruit urceolate or globose, 3-6 mm, glandular-hairy. Corolla pinkish to purple, c. 7 mm long, tube included or slightly exerted, without a hair-ring inside, limb seeming 1-lipped, the lower lip 3-lobed, slightly concave, associated with two upper lobes forming a 5-lobed whole. Nutlets slightly flattened, ovoid or globoid, 1.5 mm long, surface of contact large, oblique, lateral.

Badomukabadi and Dudurchampa, Similipahar, Mayurbhanj, North Orissa in shady places - Saxena, Brahmam & Prabhakar Rao 4643, 4658 (RRL-B), Fl. & Fr. 10-6-82.

Distribution: Sikkim Himalaya, Bengal, Khasia hills, Oudh. Myanmar, Thailand, Indo-China, Hong-Kong to China, Korea, Formosa, Malaysia, Japan.

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34. FIRST RECORD OF THE ALLIGATOR WEED, *ALTERNANTHERA PHILOXEROIDES* (MART.) GRISEB. FROM PUNE, MAHARASHTRA

(With a text-figure)

The genus *Alternanthera* Forsk. is represented in India by five species, namely *A. sessilis*, *A. pungens*, *A. tenella*, *A. paronychioides* and *A. bettzichiana* (Sivarajan and Mathew 1984, Naik and Pokle 1985). These plants are known to attain weed proportions.

One such aquatic emergent weed showing close resemblance to the genus *Alternanthera* was seen growing profusely during October 1992 in the river Mutha, which flows through Pune city. Though two of us had spotted this plant growing in the same river, during 1990, it failed to attract attention of even the angiosperm taxonomists probably because it had not reached weed proportions then. Two earlier reports, one for the river Mutha and its surroundings (Ghate and Vartak 1981) and the other for aquatic angiosperms of entire Maharashtra (Karthikeyan *et al.* 1982) have not mentioned this plant.

This weed was found growing luxuriantly along the slow moving and sewage polluted parts of the river Mutha. The plant attains a length of over two metres. Flowering was observed during April and May. Because no species of *Alternanthera* commonly found in India bears flowers in peduncled heads, there was delay in identification of this plant. Herbarium collections in Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Western Circle, Pune and Agharkar Herbarium of the Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science (AHMA), Pune, were also not helpful because this plant is not in their collections. We even recently mentioned about this unidentified weed at the "National Conference on Recent Advances in Phytotaxonomy" held at Aurangabad, in June 1993.

After a thorough examination of the material at hand and literature survey, we now report this plant to be *Alternanthera philoxeroides* (Mart.) Griseb., popularly known as the alligator weed. Our identification is based on the description and key

given by Maheshwari (1964), Bennet (1979) and Sivarajan and Mathew (1984).

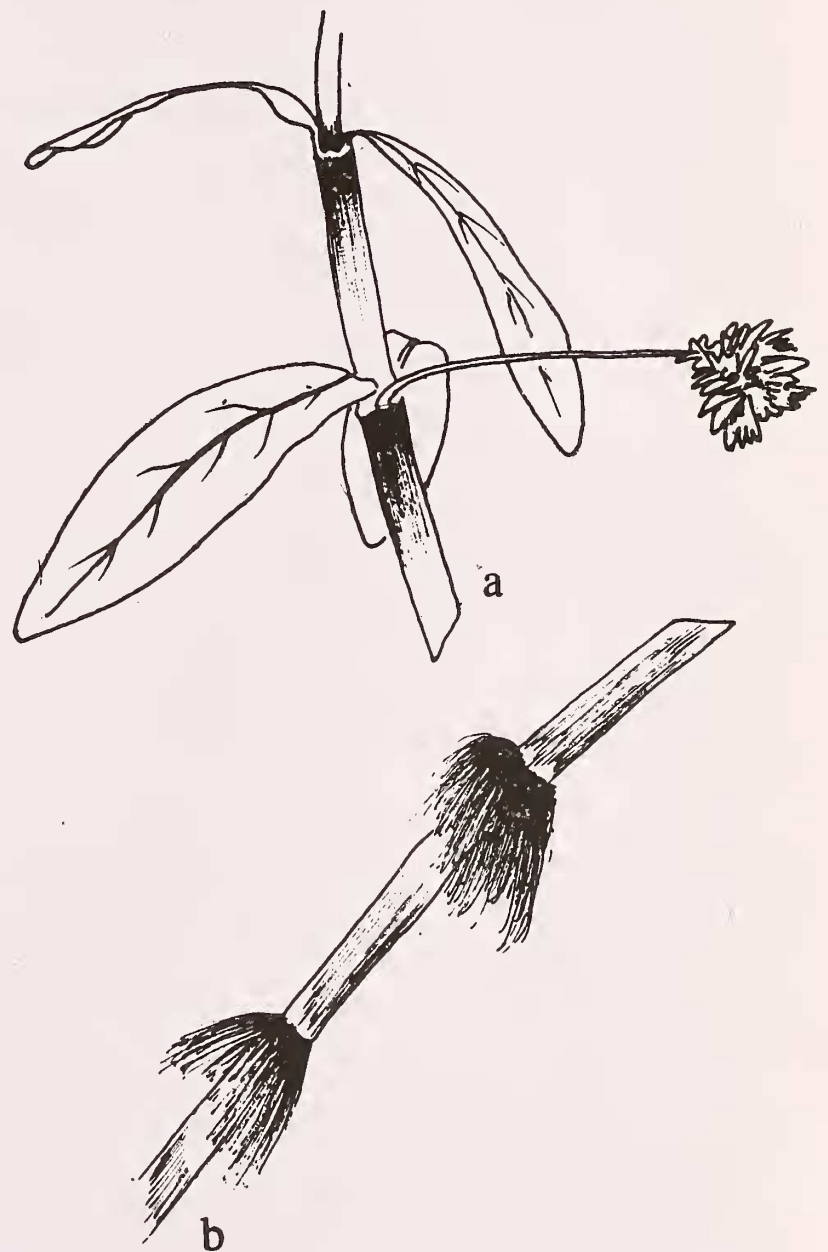


Fig. 1. *Alternanthera philoxeroides* (Mart.) Griseb.
a. Showing the stem and peduncled flower;
b. Showing rooting at lower nodes.

Singh and Singh (1985) stated that in Manipur the plant is locally known as 'komprek' and that all